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Action ER 86-6016X

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M. GRAEME BANNERMAN, STAFF DIRECTOR GERYLD B. CHRISTIANSON, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS	ARRO
Washington, DC 20510 December 18, 1986	Defendance come anna me commence
RE\$71 #	****

The Honorable William J. Casey Director of Central Intelligence Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

In January, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee will hold hearings on President Reagan's "strategic initiative" toward Iran, focusing on the diverse policy and institutional issues that extend well beyond the scope of other current Congressional investigations. Specifically, we will examine why such an initiative was launched, why arms transfers were involved, how the initiative impacts on the Administration's global anti-terrorism policy, and how it has affected the military balance in the Gulf region as well as U.S. relations with the various nations of the Middle East. The Committee will also wish to reexamine arms transfer law in light of recent events and, with testimony from the Tower Commission, to review the role of the National Security Council in the conduct of foreign policy. While investigations conducted elsewhere focus on possible illegalities arising from the diversion of funds to the contras, the Foreign Relations Committee's hearings would address the profound foreign policy and institutional implications of Administration actions.

In the course of these hearings, we wish to hear from you in executive session on the morning of January 21. Should you not be available for reasons of ill health, we would wish to have testimony from the Deputy Director.

Your staff may contact John Ritch of the Foreign Relations Committee staff to discuss details.

Sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS WASHINGTON, DC 20510 OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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The Honorable William J. Casey Director of Central Intelligence Washington, D.C. 20505

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